

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Illinois Field Office
P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283
Phone: (217)492-4295

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

RELEASED: MAY 15, 2006 IFR-06-07

VOL. 27 NO. 7

HIGHLIGHTS

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The staff of the Illinois Field Office wishes to thank the farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses that responded to the May Ag Yield Survey, Livestock Marketings, Poultry Production, April Prices Received and Manufactured Dairy Products surveys. Your responses to these surveys are important to the agricultural community.

MAY CROP REPORT

The **Illinois wheat crop** is projected to yield 63 bushels per acre based on conditions as of May 1, two bushels above last year's yield. If this yield is realized, total production will be 54.8 million bushels, 50 percent more than a year ago. Farmers seeded 900 thousand acres to wheat last fall, and expect to harvest 870 thousand acres for grain. This compares to 630 thousand acres seeded and 600 thousand acres harvested for the 2005 crop.

As of April 30, 29 percent of the crop was headed, compared to 5 percent last year and the five-year average of 7 percent. The condition of the wheat crop was rated 2 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 19 percent excellent.

Stocks of hay on Illinois farms on May 1 totaled 324 thousand tons. This year's hay stocks were down 30 percent from the 460 thousand tons on May 1, 2004.

Corn planting was 85 percent complete by May 7, compared to 92 percent last year and 76 percent for the five-year average. Corn was 45

percent emerged compared to 49 percent last year. **Soybean** planting was 14 percent complete, compared to 34 percent last year and the five-year average of 22 percent. One percent of the soybeans were emerged compared to one percent for last year. **Sorghum** planting was 15 percent complete by May 7, compared to 13 percent for both last year and the five-year average. **Oats** headed was three percent complete by May 7, compared to three percent last year and the five-year average of two percent. Condition of the oat crop, as of May 7, was 7 percent excellent, 79 percent good, 13 percent fair, and 1 percent poor. Eleven percent of the first cutting of **alfalfa hay** was complete by May 7, compared to ten percent last year and six percent for the five-year average. Alfalfa was rated 20 percent excellent, 63 percent good, 16 percent fair, and 1 percent poor on May 7. **Red clover** condition was rated at 19 percent excellent, 61 percent good, 18 percent fair, and 2 percent poor. Condition of **pastures** was 18 percent excellent, 66 percent good, 14 percent fair, and 2 percent poor. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 8 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus as of May 7.

SUMMARY OF MAY 1 CROP REPORT

Crops	Illinois			United States		
	2004	2005	Indicated 2006	2004	2005	Indicated 2006
Winter Wheat:						
Acres planted (000)	920	630	900	43,350	40,433	41,404
Acres for harvest (000)	900	600	870	34,462	33,794	31,177
Yield per acre, bu.	59.0	61.0	63.0	43.5	44.4	42.4
Production, bu. (000)	53,100	36,600	54,810	1,499,434	1,499,129	1,322,831
Hay stocks on farms:						
Tons (000)	408	460	324	25,947	27,758	21,315

UNITED STATES

U.S. **winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.32 billion bushels, down 12 percent from 2005. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 42.4 bushels per acre, 2.0 bushels less than last year. Grain area totals 31.2 million acres, down 8 percent from last season. The portion of the winter wheat crop rated good to excellent on April 30, at 36 percent, was 27 percentage points below last year. The yield potential of the crop has been significantly reduced in Texas and Oklahoma due to continued drought conditions. In Texas, wheat production is forecast at the lowest since 1971 and acres harvested for grain are the lowest since 1925. Rain showers during the latter portion of April were beneficial, but due to the extent of drought damage, did little to improve the crop. Oklahoma has experienced one of the worst droughts in history. There was no measurable rainfall across the State from the end of October through the

first of March. Farther north, wheat jointed and headed in Kansas ahead of the 5-year average, however, soil moisture supplies continue to be a major concern especially in the western portion of the State. In Nebraska, disease and insect pressures are minimal while soil moisture supplies are mostly short in the major wheat growing areas. Growers in many States in the Soft Red Winter growing area expect yields to be below last year. In Arkansas, wheat headed ahead of the 5-year average due to dry weather earlier in the year. Crop condition ratings in Ohio are better than last year.

U.S. hay stocks on farms totaled 21.3 million tons on May 1, 2006, down 23 percent from May 1, 2005.

LIVESTOCK MARKETINGS

Total gross income for Illinois producers from cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lamb marketings increased four percent from \$1.54 billion in 2004 to \$1.60 billion in 2005. Cattle and calves gross income increased 23 percent, hogs and pigs decreased five percent, and sheep and lambs increased 45 percent. Gross income from hogs and pigs, at \$979 million, accounted for 61 percent of the total gross income for meat animals. The Illinois hogs and pigs annual average price per 100 pounds live weight increased from \$50.80 in 2004 to \$51.40 in 2005. Marketings of cattle and calves in 2005 were up 22 percent from 2004 and hog marketings were down seven percent from 2004. Sheep and lamb marketings were up 40 percent.

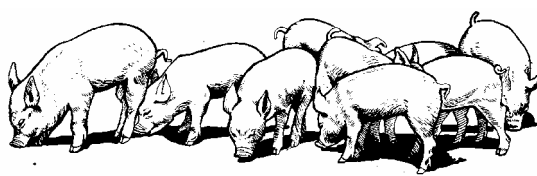
The total gross U.S. income for producers from cattle and calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs totaled \$65.3 billion, up four percent from 2004. Cattle and calves accounted for 76 percent of this total. Cattle and calves gross income increased four percent, hogs and pigs increased five percent, and sheep and lambs increased ten percent. The U.S. hogs and pigs annual average price per 100 pounds live weight increased from \$49.30 in 2004 to \$50.20 in 2005. Total marketings of meat animals decreased one percent from 2004 to 82.1 billion pounds. Cattle and calves accounted for 65 percent of the total U.S. marketings; hogs and pigs, 34 percent; and sheep and lambs, one percent.

MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, 2005

Item	Unit	Cattle and Calves		Hogs and Pigs		Sheep and Lambs	
		Illinois	U.S.	Illinois	U.S.	Illinois	U.S.
Marketings ^{1/}	1,000 Pounds	679,120	53,068,833	1,664,470	28,462,375	5,040	571,174
Cash Receipts ^{2/}	1,000 Dollars	602,609	49,208,682	977,692	15,037,068	5,242	569,921
Value of Home Consumption	1,000 Dollars	17,728	459,479	1,074	35,145	294	12,747
Gross Income	1,000 Dollars	620,337	49,668,161	978,766	15,072,213	5,536	582,668

^{1/} Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the state.

^{2/} Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter.



POULTRY PRODUCTION

The combined value of production in Illinois from eggs, chickens and turkeys totaled \$78.0 million in 2005. The number of eggs produced, at 1.21 billion, increased 16 percent from 2004. The value of egg production, at \$38.1 million, decreased 26 percent from the previous year. Chicken sales were up 24 percent to 7.7 million pounds compared to 6.2 million pounds in 2004. Sales for turkeys were up four percent to 92.8 million pounds compared to 89.3 million pounds in 2004.

The U.S. combined value of production from eggs, turkeys, chickens and broilers in 2005 was \$28.2 billion, down two percent from the \$28.9 billion in 2004. The value of broilers produced during 2005 was \$20.9 billion, up 21 percent from 2004 and accounted for 74 percent of the total. Egg production value, at \$4.04 billion, was down 24 percent from the previous year. The value of turkeys produced was \$3.23 billion, up five percent from 2004. Chicken sales (excluding broilers) in 2005 was \$64.6 million, up 12 percent from 2004.

POULTRY PRODUCTION AND VALUE: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, 2005

Item	Unit	Eggs		Chickens		Turkeys		Broilers	
		Illinois	U.S.	Illinois	U.S.	Illinois	U.S.	Illinois	U.S.
Production	1,000 Pounds ^{1/}	1,210	89,960	7,652	1,000,535	92,800	7,206,560	^{2/}	47,908,100
Value of Production	1,000 Dollars	38,058	4,042,282	77	64,554	39,904	3,232,576	^{2/}	20,901,939

^{1/} Reporting unit for eggs is millions.

^{2/} Estimate excludes states producing less than 500,000 birds.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The April index of prices received by Illinois farmers for all commodities was 98 percent of the base, down two points from the revised March figure and 19 points below April 2005. The current year's base was computed by multiplying the average production for the five-year period by the average price for each year. These five years were summed and then divided by five to arrive at an average (base) for the period. The current five-year average production was then multiplied by the current price and divided by the average for the five years to arrive at the current index. The April All Crops index, at 98 percent of the base, was one point above the revised March number but 13 points below April of last year. Corn, sorghum, and wheat prices increased from last month while soybean, other hay, and alfalfa hay prices fell. The All Livestock index was at 99 percent of the base, down 11 points from the revised March number and 34 points below April 2005. All livestock prices decreased from last month with the exception of calves which increased slightly. The hog-corn ratio was at 18.2.

The U.S. preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April was 115, based on 1990-92=100, and increased one point from March. The Crop Index was up 11 points but the Livestock Index decreased six points. Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and strawberries. Lower prices were received for cattle, broilers, eggs, and hogs. The overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of strawberries, cattle, sweet corn, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and hogs.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Mar. 2005	Apr. 2005	Mar. 2006	Apr. 15, 2006
ILLINOIS		1999-2003=100	2000-2004=100	
All Farm Products	116	117	100 *	98
All Crops	110	111	97 *	98
Food grains	138	135	127 *	131
Feed grains/hay	99	100	95 *	98
Soybeans	124	125	98 *	95
All Livestock	136	133	110 *	99
Meat animals	138	134	109 *	99
Dairy products	130	133	110 *	100
UNITED STATES		1990-92=100		
All Farm Products	119	121	114 *	115
All Crops	116	120	118 *	129
Food grains	111	109	124 *	128
Feed grains/hay	95	96	98 *	101
Oilseeds	107	108	100 *	96
All Livestock	121	122	110 *	104
Meat animals	122	125	115 *	111
Dairy products	119	116	96 *	93
Prices Paid	139	140	146 *	147
Parity Ratio 1/	86	86	78 *	78

1/ Prices received index divided by prices paid index.

* Revised.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Illinois				United States			
		Mar. 2005	Apr. 2005	Mar. 2006	Apr. 15, 2006	Mar. 2005	Apr. 2005	Mar. 2006	Apr. 15, 2006
		Dollars							
Corn	Bushels	2.09	2.09	2.12 *	2.20	2.02	2.00	2.06 *	2.11
Soybeans	Bushels	6.03	6.13	5.68 *	5.60	5.95	6.03	5.57 *	5.39
Sorghum	Cwt.	3.50	3.51	4.03 *	4.20	3.04	2.96	3.53 *	3.53
Wheat, all	Bushels	3.57	3.32	3.69 *	3.70	3.42	3.35	3.79 *	3.90
Oats	Bushels	1.94	3/	3/	2.10	1.73	1.65	1.81 *	1.72
Hay, all baled	Tons	92.00	89.00	103.00	98.00	92.60	99.40	97.10 *	106.00
Alfalfa hay, bld	Tons	94.00	93.00	105.00	103.00	98.60	105.00	100.00 *	110.00
Other hay, bld	Tons	70.00	71.00	81.00	78.00	77.80	81.60	86.60 *	93.20
Hogs, all	Cwt.	52.50	52.70	44.00	40.10	51.20	51.10	42.80 *	39.10
Barrows, Gilts	Cwt.	53.50	54.00	45.00 *	41.20	51.50	51.50	43.20 *	39.60
Sows	Cwt.	42.00	39.40	32.30 *	26.90	43.40	41.50	34.10 *	28.80
Beef cattle	Cwt.	90.20	93.20	86.20 *	82.30	91.00	93.70	88.10 *	85.20
Cows	Cwt.	53.00	54.00	47.00	46.00	55.00	57.00	49.50 *	48.70
Steers, Heifers	Cwt.	91.00	94.00	87.00 *	83.00	95.20	98.10	93.00 *	89.70
Calves	Cwt.	123.00	128.00	123.00 *	124.00	136.00	141.00	138.00 *	136.00
Milk cows	Head	2/	1,760.00	2/	1,760.00	2/	1,770.00	2/	1,770.00
Milk, all	Cwt.	15.40	15.50	13.80 *	13.30	15.60	15.20	12.60 *	12.10
Milk, fluid	Cwt.	15.40	15.50	13.80	3/	15.60	15.20	12.60 *	12.20
Milk, mfg.	Cwt.	15.40	15.40	12.90	3/	14.80	14.70	11.50 *	11.40
Hog-corn ratio		25.1	25.2	20.8 *	18.2	25.3	25.6	20.8 *	18.5

1/ Prices received represents the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations.

2/ Estimated in January, April, July and October.

3/ State prices not published.

* Revised.

Illinois Farm Report (ISSN 0273-8643) is published monthly in February, March, May, June, August, September, November and December; twice in January, April, July and October by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture and USDA, NASS, Illinois Field Office, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, Illinois 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois.

Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Farm Report, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9283.

MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS - ANNUAL SUMMARY

Total cheese production in the U.S. in 2005, excluding cottage cheese, was 9.13 billion pounds, up 2.9 percent from the 2004 production. Wisconsin was the leading state with 26.4 percent of the production.

American type cheese production was 3.81 billion pounds, 2.0 percent above 2004 and accounted for 41.8 percent of total cheese production in 2005. **Italian varieties**, with 3.80 billion pounds, were 3.9 percent above 2004 production. Mozzarella accounted for 79.4 percent of the Italian production followed by Provolone with 8.0 percent and

Ricotta with 6.2 percent. **Swiss cheese production** was 5.0 percent above the 2004 production at 294 million pounds.

Butter production in the United States during 2005 totaled 1.35 billion pounds, 8.1 percent above 2004. California accounted for 30.3 percent of the production, followed by Wisconsin with 28.5 percent.

Ice cream production in the United States totaled 1.36 billion gallons in 2005. Regular ice cream production increased 3.6 percent from 2004 to 953 million gallons in 2005. Lowfat ice cream, at 364 million gallons, decreased 6.0 percent.

MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Product	Illinois			United States		
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2005/2004
	1,000 pounds		Percent	1,000 pounds		Percent
Butter	1/	1/	--	1,246,678	1,347,227	108
Cheese:						
Swiss	1/	1/	--	281,288	294,026	105
Muenster	1/	1/	--	72,812	77,882	107
American, all	1/	1/	--	3,738,826	3,812,950	102
Cheddar	1/	1/	--	3,004,477	3,052,415	102
Italian, all	1/	1/	--	3,661,590	3,804,730	104
Mozzarella	1/	1/	--	2,916,558	3,020,798	104
Total Cheese	93,609	92,988	99	8,873,150	9,127,107	103
Cottage Cheese:						
Lowfat (< 4.0% milkfat)	35,938	36,194	101	396,431	396,071	100
Creamed (≥ 4.0% milkfat)	41,477	42,055	101	382,386	368,157	96
Curd	42,879	41,163	96	463,960	457,353	99
Yogurt	1/	1/	--	2,707,313	2,989,789	110
	1,000 gallons			1,000 gallons		
Frozen Products:						
Ice Cream, regular	40,799	39,857	98	919,919	953,030	104
Ice Cream, low fat	19,921	20,254	102	387,106	363,968	94
Milk Sherbet	1/	1/	--	51,191	55,280	108
Yogurt	1/	1/	--	64,544	65,051	101
Water Ices	1/	1/	--	63,954	66,108	103

1/ Not published if individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Brad Schwab, Mark Schleusener, Michael S. Clark, Agricultural Statisticians
"Printed by authority of the State of Illinois" 5/15/06, 1,925, 1399

